

Message Text

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ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 EB-07 NRC-05

NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 ACDA-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2910

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, US, SZ, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV PURCHASE OF FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM

REF: A) STATE 176515, B) GC-1598

1. EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED MR. DERUNTS, SALES MANAGER OF OERLIKON-BUEHRLE HOLDING AG, IN CONNECTION WITH PROPOSED SALE (REFTEL) OF SKYGUARD FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM TO YUGOSLAVIA. ACCORDING DERUNTS, YUGOSLAVS ASKING BUY BOTH SKYGUARD AND SUPERFLEDERMAUS FIRE CONTROL SYSTEMS AND 35 MM ANTIAIRCRAFT GUNS, ALL EQUIPMENT PRODUCED BY OERLIKON'S CONTRAVES DIVISION. IN ADDITION, YUGOSLAVIA WISHES TO ACQUIRE RIGHTS TO BUILD SKYGUARD AND SUPERFLEDERMAUS IN YUGOSLAVIA.

2. DERUNTS STATED IT IS OUTSIDE NORMAL SWISS BUSINESS PRACTICE TO SELL RIGHTS FOR PRODUCTION OF SUCH SYSTEMS TO COMMUNIST COUNTRY. OERLIKON FEELS NATO MIGHT OBJECT SUCH TRANSACTION. THEREFORE, OERLIKON HAS TOLD YUGOSLAVS TO OBTAIN OFFICIAL STATEMENTS FROM US, WEST GERMAN, AND SWISS GOVERNMENTS TO EFFECT THAT THERE NO OBJECTION TO ABOVE SALE OR TO LICENSING MANUFACTURE THESE SYSTEMS IN YUGOSLAVIA.

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3. NEITHER SKYGUARD, SUPERFLEDERMAUS, NOR 35 MM CANNON

INCLUDE US COMPONENTS OR TECHNOLOGY WHICH WOULD REQUIRE
EXPORT APPROVAL BY US. NONETHELESS, OERLIKON FEELS IT
NECESSARY OBTAIN US, WEST GERMAN, AND SWISS VIEWS ON
PROPOSED TRANSACTION.

4. IF THERE FURTHER QUESTIONS RE ABOVE, DERUNTS SUGGESTS
DEPARTMENT CONTACT MR. WHEATLY, OERLIKON REP AT HERMES
INC., WASHINGTON, D.C., WHO FULLY BRIEFED ON PROPOSED
TRANSACTION.
ODELL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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